

Remarks

Claims 63-66 and 68-71 are pending in the present application, with Claims 63, 70, and 71 being independent.

Claims 63, 70, and 71 have been amended. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, at page 55, lines 23-25, of the specification. An editorial change has been made to Claim 66. No new matter is believed to have been added by any of the amendments.

The claims are submitted to overcome the outstanding rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

As recited in independent Claim 63, the present invention relates to an image reproduction control apparatus that includes a display control section for controlling display, in a display unit, and an operation section for starting reproduction in accordance with input from a user and for performing the reproduction of one or more images to be reproduced after confirmation by the user that the one or more images specified by a reproduction instruction file are to be reproduced. As amended, the display unit displays one or more thumbnail images, the one or more thumbnail images corresponding to the one or more images to be reproduced specified by the reproduction instruction file. In the confirmation by the user that the one or more images specified by the reproduction instruction file are to be reproduced, the one or more thumbnail images are reproduced as image data to be displayed.

Independent Claims 70 and 71 recite, respectively, a method of controlling image reproduction, and a computer-readable storage medium storing a program for

executing a method of controlling image reproduction, that each have features generally corresponding to the features of the apparatus of Claim 63.

U.S. Patent No. 6,243,171 (Haneda) relates to a laboratory system, method of controlling operation thereof, playback apparatus and method, film image management method, image data copying system and method of copying image data. Haneda is said to teach starting reproduction in accordance with input from a user and for performing the reproduction of one or more images to be reproduced after the user confirms that the one or more images specified by a reproduction instruction file are to be reproduced.

However, it is respectfully submitted that, in contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, Haneda neither teaches nor suggests, among other features, that a display unit displays one or more thumbnail images, the one or more thumbnail images corresponding to the one or more images to be reproduced specified by the reproduction instruction file. Nor does the patent teach or suggest that in the confirmation by the user that the one or more images specified by the reproduction instruction file are to be reproduced, the one or more thumbnail images are reproduced as image data to be displayed. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that Haneda does not anticipate independent Claims 63, 70, and 71.

Applicant submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citation of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as the base claims from which they depend are allowable, and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the present application at the Examiner's earliest convenience are earnestly solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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